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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/806,846	03/23/2004	Francois Bourdoncle	91712	2479

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EXAMINER

BELL, CORY C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2164

DATE MAILED: 09/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/806,846	<b>Applicant(s)</b> BOURDONCLE, FRANCOIS	
	<b>Examiner</b> Cory C. Bell	<b>Art Unit</b> 2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 8-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1, 8 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 2, 3 and 10-12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.


- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

  
**SAM RIMELL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-3, and 8-12 are pending.
2. Claims 4-7 have been cancelled.

#### *Claim Objections*

-  3. Claims 2, 3, 10, 11 and 12 are objected to as having improper dependencies, first claims 2 and 3 are dependant upon claim 10, however claims can only be dependant on preceding claims, further more claim 10 is dependant upon itself. Thus these claims will not be further examined on the merits.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112*

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 USC 112 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph.
5. *As per Claim 1*, the relationship between “a referencing document,” “a referenced document,” and “an aggregate document” and their prior recitations in the claims are unclear.
6. *As per Claim 9*, the relationship between “a referencing document” and “a referenced document” and their prior recitation in claim 8 is unclear.

#### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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*d* 8. <sup>1, 8 AND 9</sup> Claims ~~1-3~~ and ~~8-12~~ are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 6732086, known hereafter as Plow in view of US 2002/0052894, known hereafter as Bourdoncle.

9. **Claim 1** is rejected for the following reasons:

1. A process for searching among a collection of documents, the collection comprising a referencing document and a referenced document referenced in the referencing document, the process comprising:

Aggregating a referencing document and a referenced document referenced in the referencing document to form an aggregate document. (Plow Col 5 lines 20-26)

indexing the aggregate documents based on index terms contained in the referencing and referenced documents forming the aggregate document:

searching among the aggregate documents; (Plow Col 4 lines 50-58) and providing, as a result, an aggregate document(Plow Figure 4).

Plow discloses the limitations of claim 1 as listed above, but fails to expressly disclose indexing the sites based on the content of the pages that it consist of. This is taught by Bourdoncle in paragraph 42, thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to index the aggregate documents based on index terms contained in the referencing and referenced documents forming the aggregate document is it provides the advantage of supporting ranking and other features as listed in the last sentence of paragraph 42 of Bourdoncle.

10. **Claim 8** is rejected for the following reasons:

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Plow discloses the limitations of using a referencing document and referenced documents as seen in the rejection of claim 1 as listed above, but fails to expressly disclose using an inverse index having an entry for the aggregate document. This is taught by Bourdoncle in paragraph 42, thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to create an inverted index the aggregate documents based on as is it provides the advantage of supporting ranking and other features as listed in the last sentence of paragraph 42 of Bourdoncle.

11. **Claim 9** is rejected for the following reasons:

The search engine of claim 8, further comprising:

a display routine adapted to displays for a result comprising a referencing document or a referenced document(Figure 5).

content of the referencing document(Figure 5 contains a link to the homepage, which is the referencing document and following this link would display the content, as is displaying the title of the document as shown in figure 5. This feature can also be seen in Figure 1 of Bourdoncle).  
and ,

information or attribute of the referenced document(Figure 5).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cory C. Bell whose telephone number is (571) 272 2736. The examiner can normally be reached on m-f 8:30-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272 4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
**SAM RIMELL**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**